



## Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Approved Meeting Minutes: May 8, 2014

*Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.*

### **Administrative Business:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by the ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical). Meeting minutes were taken by the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love (Eurofins Lancaster Labs Env). The April 2014 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a motion by Tom Cady (API) and seconded by Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs).

**Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP):** A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

Renewal packets are still coming in. These were due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The packets that were received after the first will not be processed by July. Any requests for modifications should wait until after July 1<sup>st</sup> as the department will not have time to process these at this time.

**Proficiency Test (PT) Program:** A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

Evaluation of the wastewater PTs is underway now. All state labs (blue book labs) are reminded to carefully check the lists of parameters as there were some additions (i.e. volatile residue by 160.4 and 2540F). The additional parameters are missing from many of the reports. The department is seeing problems when labs are ordering their PTs based on last year's order. The additional parameter requirements are missed this way. This does not impact the NELAC labs.

Be sure to enter the name of the lab on the PT report as it appears on the lab's certificate and also include the certificate ID number. The department is having issues with linking the reports to labs where the lab has multiple locations under the same company name and list a corporate headquarters address. A letter will be sent out in early June to clarify this.

Questions on the PT Program may be emailed to Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) at: [rachel.ellis@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:rachel.ellis@dep.state.nj.us)

**The NELAC Institute (TNI):** A program update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

Revisions to PT Volumes 1 and 2 of the TNI Standards will be posted for comment soon. Volume 3 was already posted. All four volumes should be posted for comment prior to the summer TNI meeting.

The next TNI meeting will be the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August in Washington DC. Check the TNI website <http://www.nelac-institute.org/index.php> or NEMC website <http://www.nemc.us/> for agenda and registration information.

**Sludge / Biosolids:** No program updates were reported.

**Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water:** No program updates were reported.

Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) mentioned that the NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute has been re-established and is looking at fluorinated compounds (PFOA, PFOS). More information can be found at their website [http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/g\\_boards\\_dwqi.html](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/g_boards_dwqi.html).

**Site Remediation Program:** A program update was provided by Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRP).

Feedback on the following items is requested by Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRP):

- EPH method LCS/LCSD criteria of 40-140 – are these reasonable limits to use or are they too wide?
- EPH method fractionation vs non-fractionated – which do you feel is more accurate?
- For naphthalene by TO-15 – what is your current LOQ and can you report lower than what you do now?

Email your answers to [greg.toffoli@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:greg.toffoli@dep.state.nj.us).

The Technical Guidance document is finalized. Notification was sent out through listserv on April 29<sup>th</sup>. The documents are available for viewing and downloading on the SRP's Guidance Library Web page at [http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/guidance/#analytic\\_methods](http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/guidance/#analytic_methods). The overview training session/webinar is set for June 24<sup>th</sup> [NOTE: This was communicated through listserv on May 13<sup>th</sup>. See SRP's training web page at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/srra/training/> for more information]. The full day session geared for LSRPs is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Rutgers.

The following miscellaneous topics/questions were discussed:

- Tom Cady (API) posed a question regarding the rounding information that is specific to air in the Technical Guidance. Greg Toffoli noted that the air rounding is defined but other parameters are not as this issue of significant figures and rounding is still being discussed. Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) said that some LSRPs are asking the lab to report to the same number of significant figures as are displayed in the standards. These types of requests were discussed further, however, at this time there is no resolution. The Department is still working to come to a consensus.
- Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) was contacted recently by the Spill Fund organization asking that the lab use the NJ GW quality standard on their drinking water reports in place of the MCL.
- Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) said that they are getting some requests to report 1,4-dioxane by EPA 522 rather than 8260 or 8270 SIM. Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRP) said that NJ DEP is not driving anything toward EPA 522. This may be based on the site DQOs.
- Steve Reduker (IAL Lab.) asked if results for potable wells and monitoring wells from a site can be reported together or must they be separate? Greg Toffoli (NJDEP-SRP) responded that the data can be submitted together.

#### **Subcommittees:**

**MUR Subcommittee:** Deb Waller (NJDEP OQA) was not present but will send information for the tables for section 5020B via email to the committee members for review and comment.

NOTE: An errata sheet for the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of Standard Methods was published in December 2013. It can be found at this link [http://www.standardmethods.org/PDF/22nd\\_Ed\\_Errata\\_12\\_16\\_13.pdf](http://www.standardmethods.org/PDF/22nd_Ed_Errata_12_16_13.pdf).

**Electronic Data Deliverables Subcommittee:** An update for the SRP-EDD Subcommittee was provided by Henry Kindervatter, Roger Page, and Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRP-BIS).

The subcontract laboratory information proposal (to add result fields SubLabName, SubLabCertID, SubLabSampID) was discussed. Comments were received from a couple of labs. Vini Bandeira (PTL) commented that the columns should be there to add the subcontractor information. Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) noted that there are different requirements in different departments. For example, for PWTA samples, the primary lab needs to report all results even those obtained from the subcontractor. It was decided that the fields would be there but would not be mandatory for completion.

The naming conventions are still being worked on with checking multiple source websites and with the various departments within the DEP. Tables for standard names and alternate names will be compiled.

SRP is looking at ways to store and track site specific background information. The EDDI group will keep us updated as the discussion progresses.

Questions and comments may be directed to Andy Geary (NJDEP-SRP-BIS) at: [andy.geary@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:andy.geary@dep.state.nj.us)

#### **Communications / OQA Website:**

ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date. ELAC members and stakeholders are encouraged to sign up for both the NJDEP-OQA and NJDEP-SRP listserv options to receive email notifications from NJDEP. Please check your email address to be sure it is correct. They are noticing a number of undeliverable emails.

**Meeting Schedule:** The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Harvey Klein (Garden State Laboratories) and, seconded by Charles Anzolut (Agra Environmental). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love at: [dorothylove@eurofinsUS.com](mailto:dorothylove@eurofinsUS.com) by Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

**Note:** *All visitors must show one form of photo identification, or two non-photo IDs, when signing in at the NJDEP main lobby in the Trenton, New Jersey complex (401, 501, 440 and 428 E. State Street buildings). All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification. **Visitors must be escorted at all times by a NJDEP representative when in the building.***